Sugar trade by STC

1152. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) has been dealing with sugar trade;

(b) the total amount of investment made by STC on sugar business during the last three years;

(c) the achievement made by STC thereon; and

(d) the projection made or plan formulated on investment, purchase or sale or export of sugar in 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) while no investments were made by STC on sugar business during the last three years, L/C limits were, however, used by the Corporation for import of sugar.

(c) Total imports/exports of sugar through STC during the last 3 years were as follows:—

Import	(Quantity Mts)	
1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
—	—	4,70,685
Export		
13, 585	46.565	35,000

(d) No projection/plan has been formulated by STC for import/export of sugar during 1996-97 as STC undertakes these operations on the basis of authorisation as and when received from the Government.

Problems of Rubber Units

1153. SHRI BHAGAWAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of Rubber units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to help rubber industry to overcome these problems; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Over the last few months, the rubber consuming industries have been representing against high prices and considerable gap between demand and supply of natural rubber in the domestic market. In order to stabilise the domestic market and ensure adequate availability of rubber at reasonable prices to meet the requirements of the rubber consuming industries in 1995-96, Govt. had allowed import of 38,540 MTs of natural rubber by 30.8.95 at nil duty. Import of natural rubber has also been allowed under Special Import Licence (SIL) since 18.1.95.

निर्धारित समय से पीछे चल रही केन्द्रीय परियोजनाएं

1154. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:** क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 22 फरवरी 1996 की "आब्जर्वर" (दैनिक) में "44 सेन्ट्रल प्रोजेक्ट लैंग्यूशिंग" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस समय निर्माणाधीन परियोजनाओं में से इन 44 परियोजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन पर विशेष ध्यान देने के निर्णय पर विचार कर रही है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और प्रत्येक परियोजना के निर्माण की मूल लागत क्या है तथा उनके निर्माण की वर्तमान अनुमानित लागत क्या है;

(घ) क्या ये परियोजनाएं लागत बढ़ जाने से अनुत्पादक बन जाएंगी; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?